

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 4, 8 and 15 are amended. Claims 18-25 are added. No new matter is added.

I. Address Change

Applicant has twice previously requested that all further communications from the Patent Office be forwarded to Oliff & Berridge, PLC, in accordance with the notice regarding Power of Attorney mailed on March 1, 2002. These requests were included in communications to the Patent Office on November 12, 2002, and again on May 12, 2003. As the outstanding Office Action was again mailed to an incorrect address, Applicant again requests the address change be noted and all further communications be sent to Oliff & Berridge, PLC.

II. Personal Interview

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Addison and Primary Examiner Mullins at the interview held April 29, 2004, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

III. Allowed/Allowable Claims

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1-3, 7, 10-13 and 17, as well as the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 15 and 16, they being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. As claim 15 is rewritten in independent form including any intervening claims, and claim 16 depends from claim 15, Applicant submits that claims 15 and 16 are also in condition for allowance. Claims 4-6, 8, 9 and 14 are allowable for the reasons discussed below.

IV. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 4-6, 8, 9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,936,320 to Takeda. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the personal interview, Takeda does not disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims, as amended. For example, Takeda does not disclose a rotary electric machine, comprising *inter alia* a bolt having an enlarged diameter part for fixing the stator core to the housing by pressing one axial end portion of the stator core by the enlarged diameter part, wherein the stator core has a cavity only at a radially outermost axial end portion of the stator core, and the enlarged diameter part contacts the stator core in the cavity and the bolt is disposed on the housing located radially outside of the stator core, as recited in independent claim 4.

Additionally, as discussed during the interview, Takeda does not disclose a rotary electric machine comprising *inter alia* a stator core fit in the housing in contact with the inner periphery of the wall, and outer peripheral part of a first axial end of the stator core being in contact with the step of the housing, and a bolt having an enlarged head part and a shaft part, wherein the enlarged head part presses an outer peripheral part of a second axial end of the stator core in the axial direction, the stator core has a cavity on the outer peripheral part of the second axial end of the stator core to receive the enlarged head part therein and the shaft part of the bolt is substantially entirely enclosed in the bolt hole of the housing, as recited in amended claim 8.

The Office Action alleges that Takeda discloses each and every feature recited in the rejected claims. For example, the Office Action alleges that Takeda discloses a housing 103, a bolt hole 101a, a step 111f and a cavity 101a. However, the interpretation of Takeda upon which the rejection is formed appears to be incorrect. For example, the housing in Takeda is properly identified in Fig. 1 as reference number 101, rather than 103 as alleged in the Office

Action. The alleged bolt hole 101a is properly shown as 101c in Fig. 11. The alleged step 111f is actually identified as radially-projecting portions formed on one side surface of the stator core 111 that engage with the top cover 103, and the radially-projecting portions 111f formed on the other surface of the stator core 111 are engaged with the housing 101 (col. 9, lines 16-21). Finally, the alleged cavity 101a is properly identified as a holding portion formed in the housing, as shown on Fig. 11. Accordingly, the interpretation of Takeda provided in the outstanding Office Action upon which the rejection is based is incorrect.

Furthermore, when correctly interpreting Takeda, Takeda discloses throughholes 111c formed on an outer circumference of the stator core 111 that extend from one axial end of the stator core to the other axial end of the core (see Fig. 5 of Takeda), the throughholes 111c of the stator core 111 are formed to receive the shaft part of each bolt 102. Accordingly, the throughhole 111c is not formed to receive only the head part of the bolt, as recited in claim 4. Thus, Takeda does not disclose each and every feature recited in rejected claim 4.

Regarding claim 8, Takeda does not disclose a stator core having a cavity on the outer peripheral part of the second axial end of the stator core to receive the enlarged head part of the bolt therein and the shaft part of the bolt 102 is not substantially entirely enclosed in the bolt hole and the housing (see for example Fig. 9 of Takeda). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 4-6, 8, 9 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

V. New Claims

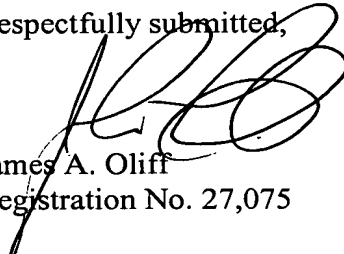
Applicant submits that Takeda does not disclose the features recited in new claims 18-25. Additionally, claims 18-25 are allowable for their dependency on the base claim, as well as the additional features recited therein.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-25 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

John W. Fitzpatrick
Registration No. 41,018

JAO:JWF/ldg

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Amendment Transmittal

Date: April 30, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--